

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON CEREAL AND HAY CROPS, 1922-23.

Wheat, 28,784,767 bush.; average per acre, 11.73. Barley, 3,663,355 bush.; average per acre, 16.56. Oats, 1,687,288 bush.; average per acre, 9.53.

FOR the purpose of ascertaining the final results of the recent harvest of the cereals and hay crops, forms of inquiry were distributed and collected through the post by the aid of the police officers in the agricultural districts of the State, and from the information thus obtained the estimate now issued has been computed.

At the time of the general collection of the previous year's crops a record was made of all farmers having sown areas for wheat, barley, and oats, and forms to all of them were posted. The response has been very satisfactory, for out of a total of 15,875, only 352 are still outstanding, and a reasonable allowance has been made in the estimate to cover those holdings.

Wheat for grain and hay was grown on about 14,100 farms, barley on 4,200, and oats for grain and hay on 8,500.

RAINFALL—ADELAIDE OBSERVATORY.

Year.	January-March.	April-November	December	Total	Wheat Average per Acre.
	In.	In.	In.	In.	Bush.
1920	1.70	22.90	2.10	26.70	15.80
1921	3.79	18.35	0.50	22.64	10.46
1922	2.40	17.83	2.97	23.20	11.73
Av. 10 years ..	2.63	17.37	1.31	21.31	10.73

ACREAGE.

Total Acreage.—The combined area sown with wheat, barley, and oats for all purposes was 3,449,460 (3,254,746) acres, giving an increased acreage of 194,714. The reported total failures in the wheat areas covered 63,415 acres, and 17,671 acres were fed off.

Wheat.—Sown 2,830,591 (2,721,220) acres; increase, 109,371 acres. The area was distributed as follows:—Grain, 2,453,086 (2,384,012) acres; increase, 69,074 acres. Hay, 359,834 (325,769) acres; increase, 34,065 acres; fed off, 17,671 (11,439) acres.

Barley.—Sown, 225,978 (174,453) acres; increase, 51,525 acres. Of this area, 221,178 (170,887) acres are reported to have been reaped, the balance being for green fodder.

Oats.—Sown, 392,891 (359,073) acres; increase, 33,818 acres. Of this area, 176,970 (125,148) acres were reaped, and 207,521 (225,878) acres were cut for hay, the balance being either fed off or cut for green fodder.

PRODUCTION.

Wheat.—28,784,767 (24,946,525) bushels; increase, 3,838,242 bush. The yield averaged 11.73 (10.46) bushels per acre. The mean yield of the previous five seasons was 25,163,074 bush., averaging 14.42 bush. per acre.

Barley.—3,663,355 (3,278,787) bushels; increase, 384,568 bush. Average per acre, 16.56 (19.19) bushels. Of this quantity, 3,428,277 (2,981,004) bushels were returned as malting barley and the balance as feed.

Oats.—1,687,288 (1,297,646) bushels, averaging 9.53 (10.37) bushels per acre.

Hay.—Wheaten hay, 467,514 (423,995) tons; average, 1.30 tons per acre. Oaten hay, 212,529 (243,540) tons. Total, 680,043 (667,535) tons. In addition, there would be other kinds of hay, totalling about 12,600 tons.

OVERSEA EXPORTS, AS PER CUSTOMS RECORDS.

Barley.—The exports of barley during the year 1921-22 totalled 1,279,622 bush., value £259,702; and for the nine months, July-March, 1923, 1,721,722 bush., £341,754.

Wheat.—From December 1st, 1922, to April 30th, 1923, the direct exports to oversea countries were:—Wheat, 10,256,008 bush.; flour, 30,533 tons, the equivalent in wheat being 11,782,658 bush. Since April 30th to date it is estimated that an additional 2,000,000 bush. have been exported. These figures are exclusive of any interstate trading.

EXPORTABLE SURPLUS OF WHEAT.

The great majority of farmers retain their full requirements for seed and a good quantity of inferior grain for feed purposes, probably aggregating 3,000,000 bush. This, with the quantity required for other food requirements—estimated at 2,800,000 bush.—allows for an exportable surplus of approximately 23,000,000 bush.

W. L. JOHNSTON, Government Statist.
Statistical Office, Adelaide, May 24th, 1923.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—PRELIMINARY STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE CEREAL AND HAY HARVEST, SEASON 1922-23

ACREAGE CROPPED.

Division.	Total Wheat, Barley, and Oats.	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Green Fodder.
		Grain.	Hay.	Grain.	Hay.	Grain.	Hay.	
Central	Acres, 897,281	Acres, 497,591	Acres, 150,175	Acres, 148,272	Acres, 25,917	Acres, 67,284	Acres, 8,042	
Lower North	905,911	715,622	103,554	30,321	14,740	36,026	5,648	
Upper North	269,557	226,585	38,191	747	2,175	1,151	708	
South-Eastern	127,026	47,733	2,719	23,500	20,224	30,286	2,564	
Western	603,023	481,773	26,939	12,075	49,339	23,853	9,044	
Murray Mallee	646,662	483,782	38,256	6,263	64,575	48,921	4,865	
Total 1922-23	3,449,460	2,453,086	359,834	221,178	176,970	207,521	30,871	
" 1921-22	3,254,746	2,384,012	325,769	170,887	125,148	225,878	23,052	
" 1920-21	3,117,374	2,167,646	329,543	202,079	167,001	231,446	19,659	
" 1919-20	2,956,389	1,926,915	450,371	157,897	192,153	134,775	94,278	
" 1918-19	3,014,489	2,186,349	358,068	130,357	160,823	138,507	40,385	

SOUTH AUSTRALIA—PRELIMINARY STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE CEREAL AND HAY HARVEST, SEASON 1922-23—continued.

PRODUCTION.

Division.	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Hay.	
	Total Yield.	Average per Acre.	Total Yield.	Average per Acre.	Total Yield.	Average per Acre.	Wheaten.	Oaten.
Central	Bushels, 7,368,235	Bushels, 14.81	Bushels, 2,597,538	Bushels, 17.52	Bushels, 343,284	Bushels, 13.25	Tons, 225,465	Tons, 86,520
Lower North	11,510,549	16.08	477,346	15.74	199,688	13.55	145,034	38,178
Upper North	2,828,995	12.49	9,075	12.15	34,163	15.71	43,833	1,147
South-Eastern	636,020	13.32	446,113	18.98	371,602	18.37	3,316	38,617
Western	2,528,980	5.25	86,621	7.17	199,191	4.04	18,330	14,073
Murray Mallee	3,911,988	8.09	46,662	7.45	539,360	8.35	31,536	33,994
Total 1922-23	28,784,767	11.73	3,663,355	16.56	1,687,288	9.53	467,514	212,529
" 1921-22	24,946,525	10.46	3,278,787	19.19	1,297,646	10.37	423,995	243,540
" 1920-21	34,258,914	15.80	3,946,062	19.53	2,331,067	13.96	477,845	275,001
" 1919-20	14,980,413	7.77	2,448,936	15.51	1,634,239	8.50	462,055	127,228
" 1918-19	22,936,925	10.49	2,417,349	18.54	1,540,603	9.58	426,147	135,016